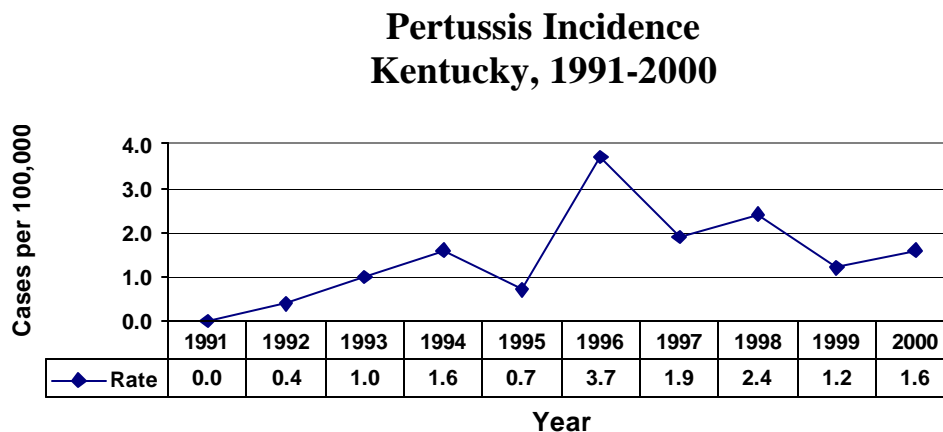


# PERTUSSIS

Pertussis (whooping cough) is a highly contagious disease of the respiratory tract caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. The disease can progress to severe paroxysms of cough, often with a characteristic inspiratory whoop. Pertussis is primarily a very contagious childhood disease that can be particularly severe in infants less than one year of age. Transmission occurs by direct contact with aerosol droplets from the respiratory tract of infected persons. Immunization beginning at two months of age is recommended.

## Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

- Isolation of *Bordetella pertussis* from clinical specimen, **OR**
- Positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for *B. pertussis*.



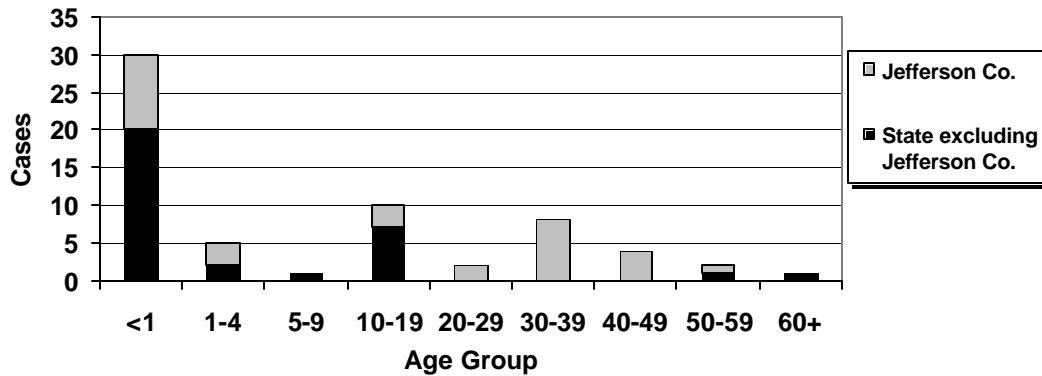
<b>Incidence in Kentucky</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>Number of Cases</b>	63
<b>Rate per 100,000</b>	1.6

<b>Rate by Gender</b>	
Female	1.8
Male	1.4

<b>Rate by Race</b>	
Black	4.9
White	1.3

Race was unknown for 2 cases (.03%).

### Pertussis, Cases by Age Group Kentucky 2000

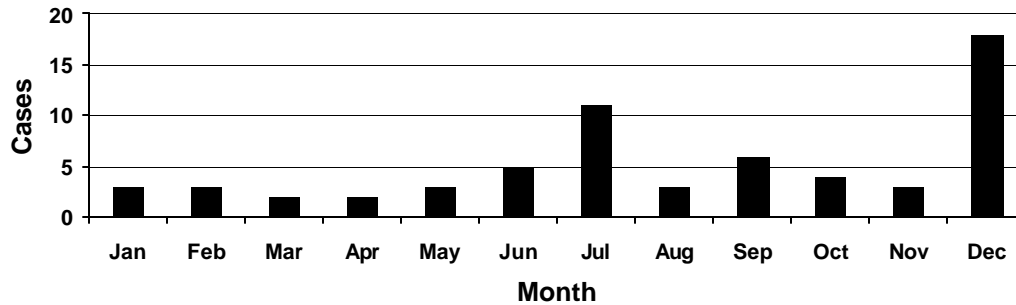


This chart shows actual case numbers in each age group and the rates per 100,000 are depicted in the table below. Children in the less than one year of age group experienced the highest rate both statewide and in Jefferson County, followed by the 1-4 year age group. Forty-nine percent (49%) of the cases reported occurred in Jefferson County.

### 2000 Rates (per 100,000)

Age Group	Statewide	Jefferson County	State w/o Jefferson
<1 year	57.0	113.6	45.0
1-4	2.4	8.8	1.2
5-9	0.4	0	0.4
10-19	1.8	3.5	1.5
20-29	0.4	2.2	0
30-39	1.4	7.6	0
40-49	0.7	3.8	0.0
50-59	0.4	1.3	0.3
60+	0.2	0	0.2

### Pertussis, Reported Cases by Month of Onset Kentucky, 2000



Fifteen of the December cases occurred in late December 1999 and were not reported until January 2000.

#### Districts Reporting Cases

Rate per 100,000

#### **2000**

Cases    Rate

Green River District	7	3.4
Barren River District	1	0.4
Lincoln Trail District	6	2.5
North Central District	33	3.9
Northern Kentucky District	4	1.1
Fivco District	1	0.7
Lake Cumberland District	2	1.1
Bluegrass District	9	1.4

The North Central District reported the highest rate of 3.9 cases per 100,000, followed by the Green River District with 3.4 cases per 100,000.

## Pertussis by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence 2000

